

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2973 - SB 3038

February 27, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires, effective July 1, 2008, that a licensed Tennessee teacher must complete training and testing in reading instruction component and be certified as competent.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- The provisions of this bill would apply to any person licensed to teach after July 1, 2008.
- All Tennessee universities with teacher education programs are required to develop and administer their teacher training programs using the Tennessee Licensure standards which address the issue of teaching reading. All pre-K and 8th grade teachers are currently required to complete coursework on reading instruction and to be tested in that area as a condition of licensure. Adding a reading instruction test for secondary teachers would be a cost to the teacher candidate.
- Any cost to the Department of Education and the State Board of Education would not be significant since both entities are constantly revising and improving the standards documents as needed.
- Any cost to higher education institutions would depend upon whether the institutions with teacher education programs would be required to expand their programs to cover additional standards. It is assumed that a reading component is currently included in the teacher training curricula of these teacher training institutions and therefore the cost would be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible, and "W." in the middle.

James W. White, Executive Director